

## ADJUSTMENT SEEN IN OYSTER DISPUTE

House Committee Expected to Recommend Adoption of Compromise Plan.

### BUSY WEEK STARTS TO-DAY

Three Big Issues Are on Calendar for Public Hearings.

Unless there is a decided change in the sentiment of its members, the House Committee, on the Chesapeake and its Tributaries, will recommend for passage a bill embodying the compromise plan for adjusting the seed oyster controversy that has been suggested by the Commission of Fisheries in its special report to the Governor.

The committee will meet at 4 o'clock this afternoon to prepare its recommendations. Oyster tongs, in whose behalf there has been introduced a bill repealing the present law which forbids the shipment of seed oysters out of the State, have refrained from commenting on the commission's compromise plan, but it is understood that they are prepared to accept it if the passage of the more radical measure cannot be secured.

### MAY TEMPORARILY LIFT SEED OYSTER EMBARGO

If the commission's suggestion is followed, the Legislature will clothe this body with power to suspend temporarily the law forbidding the shipment of seed oysters out of the State, leaving it to the commission to replace the embargo as soon as, in its judgment, this is necessary to prevent the depletion of the natural stock. In all probability, the committee will report the repeal law with a substitute embodying the commission's plan.

Chairman Riew, of the House Committee on the Chesapeake and its Tributaries, will offer a bill this week carrying into effect the recommendations contained in the Governor's last message that the office of secretary of the Commission of Fisheries be transformed into the office of assistant commissioner in charge of the shellfish interests exclusively. This change accords with the views of the commission itself and is the recommendation that body's annual report to the Governor.

The General Assembly will begin to-day what promises to be by far the busiest week of the present session. With the judgeship fight out of the way, and more than 100 bills on the House and Senate calendars awaiting disposition, the lawmakers are confronted with an ambitious schedule.

### THREE BIG ISSUES UP FOR HEARINGS

Besides the regular meetings of the standing committees, special hearings are scheduled for the Torres system, co-ordinate college and came bills—three measures which promise to loom large in the debates of the present session. The House Committee for Courts of Justice will hear argument for and against the Torres bill at 8 o'clock to-morrow night in the hall of the House of Delegates. The same bill is set for a special hearing before the House Committee on the Chesapeake and its Tributaries, also in the House of Delegates, at 4 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

Citizens from distant parts of the State are expected to take part in the discussion of the co-ordinate college bill, which will be considered at a joint sitting of the Senate Committee on Public Institutions and Education and the House Committee on Schools and Colleges, at 2:30 o'clock on Thursday afternoon. The meeting will be held in the hall of the House of Delegates. It will be continued at 8 o'clock at night if it is found that the afternoon meeting has not afforded every interested person an opportunity to be heard.

### COLLEGE MEASURE HAS STRONG FOLLOWING

Friends of the co-ordinate college bill believe that the measure has this year a stronger following than ever. Eighteen members of the House have endorsed the bill as patrons, the number including Speaker Houston and Floor Leader Williams. In the Senate, also, are several of the most prominent leaders of the minority party.

At the recent Republican caucus, Senator Davis, of Franklin, offered a resolution which was adopted unanimously, declaring the minority's deep interest in the general cause of the higher education of women in Virginia. The resolution, which was offered after the early R. Mumford in the interest of the co-ordinate college near the University of Virginia, did not specifically endorse the college bill, but the minority members evidenced their interest in it, and promised to give the measure their serious consideration.

In legislative haunts yesterday, gossip dealt merrily with the apparently impending breach in the prohibition ranks. So far, only one prohibition bill has been introduced—the Strode Addition bill in the Senate. This measure, it appears, does not accord with the views held by leaders of the prohibition majority, and will probably receive drastic treatment at the hands of the Senate Committee on Moral and Social Welfare, to which it has been referred.

### EXPECT BITTER FIGHT IN RANKS OF "DRY"

Of greater moment, however, is the question of creating the office of Commissioner of Moral Welfare. A bill providing for such an office is expected to make its appearance within the next few days. The creation of the office has been recommended by the legislative committee of the Anti-Saloon League of Virginia.

"If this matter is pressed to an issue," said a prominent "dry" member of the General Assembly last night, "it will result in a bitter fight."

(Continued on Second Page.)

## Turkish Submarine Destroyed Persia

Ministry of Marine Said to Be Preparing Statement Clearing Up Tragedy of P. & O. Liner.

LONDON, January 23.—An Amsterdam dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company says:

"According to a Berlin report the Turkish Ministry of Marine is about to publish a statement to the effect that a Turkish submarine sank the steamer Persia."

"The report alleges that similar statements are being published by the German and Austrian admiralties, it being hoped by the central powers that such a declaration will settle the Persia question."

This dispatch has not been confirmed from other sources.

Both the German and Austro-Hungarian governments have announced that the Peninsular and Oriental liner Persia was not sunk by one of their submarines, and investigations by the diplomatic representatives of the United States abroad have failed to reveal the real cause of the disaster.

Unusual interest was aroused in America by the sinking of this vessel as one of the victims was Robert N. McNeely, of Monroe, N. C., who was en route to Aden, to take up his duties as American consul there.

The Persia was sunk off the island of Crete, December 26, with a loss of 115 passengers and 217 members of the crew. The vessel went down within five minutes after a terrific explosion forward. Nobody on board claimed to have seen a submarine.

### "CHIEF SAM" IS HELD

Leader of Proposed Negro Colony on Gold Coast, Charged With Manslaughter.

NEW YORK, January 23.—"Chief" Albert T. Sani, who, with a party of about 600 negro followers, sailed from Galveston, Tex., two years ago on the steamship Liberia for the Gold Coast of Africa, where he proposed to set up a negro colony, is being held by the British authorities in Africa, on several charges, chief of which is manslaughter, according to the widow of William H. Lewis, of Galveston, a member of the party, who arrived here to-day on the Cymric from Liverpool.

On the voyage from Galveston to the Gold Coast, which was reached about the middle of November, 1914, several of the passengers and crew, including Lewis, died from scurvy. Upon these deaths is based the charge of manslaughter against "Chief" Sani, according to the Lewis woman, who added that the promised reception in Africa had not been arranged, and that the natives were apparently hostile. The woman on her arrival in London was deported to this country.

### SUBMARINES BUSY AGAIN

White Star Liner Cymric Heats of Their Operations Off Southwest Coast of Ireland.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] NEW YORK, January 23.—German submarines are again active off the southwest coast of Ireland. This report was brought in to-day by the White Star liner Cymric. She left Liverpool on January 11.

The morning after leaving Liverpool the Cymric received a wireless from the admiralty warning her to look out for submarines. An hour later three of the newest British patrol boats were in sight, and conveyed the liner to a point fifty miles west of Fastnet. The Cymric encountered tempestuous weather throughout the voyage. In her strong box she brought \$25,000,000 worth of American securities. There also was a small consignment of gold.

Among the passengers was F. Curtis, an American aviator who has been serving with the French army; Philip E. Hubbard, a Canadian officer wounded at the front, on leave of absence, and Julio A. Tigrero, a Peruvian diplomat.

### BINGHAM'S BODY ARRIVES

Member of Henry Ford's Peace Party Died Soon After Reaching Kristiania.

NEW YORK, January 23.—The steamer Kristiania, having on board the body of Lloyd Bingham, a member of Henry Ford's peace party, who died shortly after his arrival at Kristiania, arrived to-night at Quarantine.

Several persons who were connected with the peace party arrived on the Kristiania. They were: Lawrence Darnore, Joseph D. Golden, Philip A. Warner, Robert Cushing, S. Higgins, S. Hill and Christopher Phillips.

### BRITISH SHIP FOUNDERS

All on Board the Pollentia Rescued After Vessel Is in Distress 700 Miles Off Cape Race.

HALIFAX, N. S., January 23.—The British steamer Pollentia, which has been reported in distress about 700 miles off Cape Race, foundered to-night, according to a wireless message received here to-night. All on board were rescued.

An earlier radiogram said that the Italian steamer Giuseppe Verdi and two other steamers were standing by the Pollentia, waiting for the seas to moderate sufficiently to take off her crew.

The Pollentia is understood to have been in the service of the British admiralty. The Giuseppe Verdi left New York, January 11, for Genoa.

## TOUR WILL SERVE DOUBLE PURPOSE

Wilson's Campaign Expected to Bring Out Opinion and Stir Up Congress.

### PREPAREDNESS UPPERMOST

President's Determination Restores It as Paramount Subject of Discussion.

WASHINGTON, January 23.—President Wilson's determination to talk to the people of the Middle West on national preparedness has had the effect of restoring that issue as the uppermost subject of interest and discussion in Congress. For several weeks, although committees have been engaged in consideration of the army and navy appropriation bills, preparedness has been overshadowed by the Mexican situation and the international questions growing out of the European war. Now, with the President about to tour the country to arouse the public to military requirements of the nation, administration opposition leaders realize that lively times are ahead on Capitol Hill.

### DEMOCRATIC LEADERS GRATIFIED WITH PROGRAM

Democratic leaders thoroughly in sympathy with the President's views on preparedness are gratified over the purpose of the chief executive to take the field, inasmuch as there has been no apparent in Congress for some time a tendency to adopt a waiting policy among many members uncertain regarding the views of their constituents on the subject. The President's tour, it is believed, will serve the double purpose of bringing out public opinion and stirring up members of Congress.

On the other hand, opponents of preparedness see in the President's trip, an opportunity to further their cause by relying to his arguments in the Senate and House.

### EXPECT MEXICAN SPEECHES TO BE MADE NOW AND THEN

Democratic leaders in both houses expect Mexican speeches to be made now and then, but they are satisfied that the situation is in their control, for the present at least. Some time during the week Representative Humphrey, of Washington, expects to make a speech assailing the administration's Mexican policy. President Wilson's reply to the Senate, in which a mass of details regarding Carranza and Mexico will be included, may serve to arouse the interest of Congress again. It is probable now that this reply will not be sent to the Senate until the President returns from his Western tour. Interest is still apparent at the Capitol in the European situation, but no aggressive action is looked for. Embargo resolutions have been submitted to a subcommittee on Foreign Relations, and no report is anticipated for some time.

With regard to legislation in general, both houses continue to travel slowly, notwithstanding efforts of administration leaders to speed up the legislative machinery. Committees have been urged to work faster, and signs of progress are local. During the coming week, in the House, now that Majority Leader Kitchin has returned from North Carolina, leaders will attempt to inaugurate the speeding-up program, and Senate chiefs will do all they can, although they must depend upon passage first in the House on appropriation bills and revenue legislation. The revenue bill money is needed, so the Ways and Means Committee hardly will accomplish much before the Military and Naval Committee report several weeks hence.

### FEELING OVER MEASURE IS HIGH IN COMMITTEE

The immigration bill literacy test will be reported this week. Feeling over this measure is high in the committee, and its appearance on the floor is expected to precipitate heated argument.

Peace advocates will be given a hearing on Tuesday before the Foreign Affairs Committee, when resolutions looking to formation of peace commissions will be under consideration.

### TREMONT THEATER BURNS

Most Famous Playhouse Is Destroyed With Loss of \$100,000.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] BOSTON, January 23.—The Tremont Theater, Boston's most famous playhouse, was destroyed by fire this afternoon, with a loss estimated at \$100,000. Firemen worked desperately several hours in confining the flames to the theater. Ruth Chatterton, in "Daddy Longlegs," was playing an engagement at the Tremont. The origin of the fire is unknown.

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## GERMAN AIRCRAFT RESUME ATTACKS

England's Coast Is Raided Twice on Sunday by Hostile Aeroplanes.

### ONLY ONE DEATH REPORTED

Heretofore Zeppelins Have Been Used for Teutonic Thrusts at London.

LONDON, January 23.—German aircraft paid two visits to the Kentish coast to-day. The first raid occurred at 1 o'clock this morning, while the second came shortly after noon. One man was killed in the first attack and six were injured. The material damage was insignificant.

An official account of the first raid, given out here to-day, follows:

"The War Office announces that, taking advantage of the bright moonlight, a hostile aeroplane visited the east coast of Kent at 1 o'clock this morning. After dropping nine bombs in rapid succession, it made off seaward."

"No naval or military damage was done, but there was some damage to private property. Incendiary bombs caused fires, which were extinguished by 2 A. M."

"The following casualties occurred: one man killed; two men, one woman and three children slightly injured."

### SECOND ATTACK MADE IN SAME LOCALITY

The War Office statement concerning the second attack says:

"Following the aerial attack on the east coast of Kent early this morning, two hostile aeroplanes made a second attack upon the same locality shortly after noon."

"After coming under a heavy fire, the raiders disappeared, pursued by our naval and military machines."

"The enemy effected no damage, and no casualties have been reported."

The County of Kent forms the southernmost part of England, to the south of the Thames. It includes part of the city of London, but the wording of the official statement indicates that the aeroplanes did not reach the city. The point nearest London on the eastern coast of Kent is some fifty miles from the center of the city. A point of interest of the account of the first raid is the statement that it was made by an aeroplane. Heretofore Germany has relied principally on Zeppelins for aerial attacks on England. Of late, however, there has been much discussion in England of a new type of German aeroplane, the Fokker, which has been said to excel the aircraft of the entente allies. English newspapers stated last week that the British air machines were outpowered and out-gunned.

### BRITISH IN MESOPOTAMIA HAMPERED BY BAD WEATHER

LONDON, January 23.—The British forces in Mesopotamia going to the relief of Kut-el-Amara are being hampered by bad weather, but, nevertheless, fierce fighting, with varying success, is being indulged in by the Turks. Sir Percy Lake, the new British commander-in-chief, reports that the casualties on both sides have been heavy.

The Russians are continuing their advance in the Caucasus. Petrograd says the Turks are making a precipitate retreat in the region of Erzerum, and that the Russians are capturing prisoners and ammunition and other supplies. The roads are strewn with Turkish dead.

The Russians also are on the offensive against the Teutons south of Dubno, one of the Volynian triangle of fortresses, and on the Danister and Pruth, in East Galicia.

At one point along the Pruth, Vienna says the Austrians blew up a trench, killing nearly all of the 500 men in it.

### TURKS DEMORALIZED BY DEFEAT IN CAUCASUS

PETROGRAD, January 23 (via London).—The defeat of the Third Turkish Army in the Caucasus is regarded here as a greater victory than that at Sari Kaniyah a year ago, when these same Turks were so demoralized that they were only recently enabled to resume the offensive.

The entire Eleventh Corps and parts of the Ninth and Tenth of the Turkish army were engaged in the battle in the neighborhood of Lake Tameruz, according to the military authorities here. Behind these were concentrated the forces from the garrison of the Kanerut, fortress in the north of the most skillful handling of the Turkish divisions, they were unable to withstand a sudden unexpected onrush of the Russians against the center.

The campaign began toward the end of summer. During autumn three Turkish divisions were thrown back at night and along the seacoast, while in the district of Lake Van a division under Halil Bey was defeated. The operations towards Urmiyah ended with the defeat of the Turks and Germans, thus guaranteeing the safety of the Russian flank.

In December the Russians began an active attack against the center, and on January 2 broke the lines of the Eleventh Corps, so that these forces were obliged to retire in disorder.

The defeat of the Turks, it was said, was particularly disastrous in the region of Kopruk, where by artillery attacks, followed by bayonet assaults, the Russians virtually destroyed three Turkish divisions.

The Russian offensive continues on the lower Stripa and the Danister, where the Russians have tried to break through the enemy positions and menace the flank based on Buczacz, and have captured the strategically important village of Dabrowa.

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## MONTENEGRO LOSES ADRIATIC SEAPORTS

Austrians, in Their Encircling Movement, Occupy Antivari and Dulcigno.

### ADMIT FIGHTING IS RESUMED

If Invaders Continue Advance, Defenders Will Attempt to Escape to Mountains.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] PARIS, January 23.—The Austrians in their encircling movement on the remnants of the Montenegrin army have occupied the seaports of Antivari and Dulcigno.

These are Montenegro's two chief seaports on the Adriatic; Antivari being fourteen miles northwest of Scutari, and Dulcigno crowning the rocky Peninsula of Kuddije, twelve miles southwest of Scutari.

The Austrian official statement which published this information in Vienna to-night also states that the Montenegrins continue to lay down their arms "at numerous places," and that "on the northeastern front of Montenegro more than 1,500 Serbians have surrendered during the last few days."

Meanwhile, a report from Rome states that a fierce battle between the Montenegrins and Austrians has been in progress for three days to the south of Scutari. Prince Mirko is leading the Montenegrins, under tragic conditions, says the Tribune. His army, in immediate danger of being surrounded, is making desperate efforts to join the advancing force of Serbians from the south.

### PLAN GUERRILLA WAR FROM THE MOUNTAINS

If the Montenegrins do not succeed in holding back the Austrians, they will attempt to escape to the mountains, says the Tribune, and there continue a guerrilla war, in the hope that aid from the allies will at last come to them from the sea.

A Vienna dispatch, by way of Zurich, contains the first admission from the Austrians that the fighting has been resumed in Montenegro, and at the same time points out the hopelessness of the Montenegrin situation.

"Even the withdrawal of the King's unconditional surrender," says the dispatch, "would not change the condition of affairs, because the Montenegrin army is no longer able to offer resistance. Nine-tenths of its artillery is now in the hands of the Austro-Hungarian troops. The importation of ammunition and foodstuffs also is now impossible, because of the occupation by the Austrians of Antivari."

### SOME ADDITIONAL LIGHT CONCERNING SITUATION

Some additional light as to the situation in Montenegro, Albania and Serbia has been obtained through W. S. Bakeman and R. J. Strong, of the American Sanitation Committee, and George L. Lorillard, who has been in Serbia for the United States to protect the interests of Austrian prisoners of war held by the Serbians.

Mr. Bakeman and Mr. Strong arrived at the American embassy to-day, having left San Giovanni di Medua for Brindisi in one of the last vessels to depart from that abandoned Albanian town.

Mr. Lorillard has been in Rome for several days.

Views expressed by Mr. Bakeman and Mr. Strong are to effect that the so-called Austro-Montenegrin battles have in reality not been heavy. The Montenegrin government, they said, was in readiness to leave the country for Italy or Greece whenever the step became necessary. Mr. Lorillard did not deny the views of Mr. Bakeman and Mr. Strong, who declare that since the beginning of the war the Montenegrin government has had an understanding with the Austrians, which made it unsafe to attempt to receive succor from Italy or any of the other entente allied countries.

"I wish to say," said Mr. Lorillard, "that Italy has done fine work as far as she was able in helping the Serbs. She has kept her word in getting food and other supplies to the Serbs and other refugees."

### STEPS FOR ARMISTICE MERELY TO GAIN TIME

PARIS, January 23.—The Havas correspondent at Rome says the Montenegrin consul-general there has received a dispatch from Premier Mouchkovitch, of Montenegro, sent from Brindisi, in which the Premier explains the exchange of communications between the Austrian and Montenegrin military authorities after the fall of Mount Lovcen and Cetinje. According to this information, the steps taken for an armistice were merely to gain time, so as to insure the safe retreat of the Montenegrins toward Podgoritz and Scutari and to prevent interference with the Serbian troops which were on the way to Alessio and Durazzo, Albania.

A Havas dispatch from Lyons gives an account of a statement made on behalf of Queen Milena, of Montenegro, by General Gvozdenoski. The general said the ship which took the Queen, Princesses Xenie and Vera and the Montenegrin officials from Scutari to Brindisi was pursued all the way across the Adriatic by submarines and seaplanes.

### REPORTS OF SUBTERRANEAN CONFIRMED BY GENERAL

The general confirmed reports that King Nicholas had entered upon peace negotiations with the Austrians. He made the same explanation of the negotiations as that credited to Premier Mouchkovitch that his course was adopted as a subterfuge, in order to gain time to organize the army, which lacked supplies and munitions, for further resistance. These negotiations, the general said, gave the King time to concentrate his army and make plans for its retreat in case of need.

## Germans Capture Trench Near Arras

Two German raids on the east of Montenegro's two principal seaports by the Austrians, and the taking from the French near Arras and in the Argonne forest are told in the latest official communications of London, Vienna and Berlin.

Vienna reports that the Montenegrins continue to lay down their arms, and that 1,500 Serbians have surrendered in the last few days, although a semi-official communication says that a considerable portion of the Montenegrin army has declined to surrender, and that fierce fighting has been resumed in the mountain districts.

Heavy fighting has been in progress in France, a French advanced position on the road between Arras and Lens being attacked by strong German forces. The infantry attack was preceded by mine explosions and a violent bombardment, and the Germans captured a first-line trench in front of several hundred yards.

French counterattacks were immediately inaugurated, and a portion of the captured trench was retaken. The Germans, however, at the close of the day occupied 200 yards of the advanced trench, which formed a salient in the French lines.

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